

24 September 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF AIR STAFF, INTELLIGENCE.

Subject: Captured Japanese Documents.

1. In accordance with the approved agreement of the Service members of the Joint Intelligence Committee for Coordination of Intelligence on the Japanese Air Force, approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff 2 August 1944, the Military Intelligence Division has established at Camp Ritchie an agency for the exploitation of captured Japanese air documents.

2. This agency has begun to function and now requires certain assistance by the detail of specially qualified personnel from the Army Air Forces. Eventual personnel requirements for the exploitation of Japanese air documents will be based on the volume of raw material received, together with the results obtained. Pending proper determination of these facts by experience, it is requested that the Army Air Forces (Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Intelligence) provide by 10 October 1944, an initial allotment of five (5) Air Force officers, below the grade of Lt. Colonel, qualified by Air Corps tactical or technical experience for the exploitation of captured documents pertinent to the Japanese Air Force. Officers with Japanese language qualifications are preferred. Should these linguists not be available, well trained intelligence officers with the specialist qualifications indicated, will suffice initially.

3. It is also desired that the Army Air Forces furnish twelve (12) enlisted Japanese language specialists. Should the Army Air Forces be unable to furnish the trained bodies to meet this commitment, it is requested that authorization for these twelve (12) qualified personnel be procured by Army Air Forces and allocated for duty with the Military Intelligence Division. When this is done, the Military Intelligence Division will take the necessary action to secure the qualified personnel required.

4. Your agreement to the above is requested in accordance with paragraph 12 of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Coordination of Intelligence on the Japanese Air Force pertinent to captured Japanese documents. To facilitate the effective functioning of document research, expeditious action is urged.

CLAYTON BISSELL
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